

Let me say, Mr. Chairman, that I look forward to working with the many allies around this Nation, PTOs, school districts, local governments, Handgun, Inc., and my colleagues in the United States Congress, to finally recognize that after we educate the public, we educate those who are perceived opponents, my good friends in the National Rifle Association, who have always argued that they believe in prevention. Well, what is the best way to have prevention? That is the trigger lock.

At this time, Mr. Chairman, I am not going to offer this amendment, because I am prepared for the long haul. I believe we are going to win this, and we are going to win it when we educate the American people that to save more of our children's lives, we need to implement the safety lock, the trigger lock, and bring an end to this ceaseless or unending devastation against our children.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to speak on this important amendment to H.R. 4276. I have proposed an amendment to H.R. 4276 which I urge all my colleagues to support. My amendment will save children's lives! In this country today the firearm homicide rate among children across our country has tripled in the last 10 years. It is tragic and shocking that there were over 500 accidental deaths among children as a result of young and curious hands reaching for a gun as a toy. In my home State of Texas, 32 children died as a result of accidentally fired handguns last year, and 500 children died in my State as a result of firearm deaths in total. This is unacceptable.

The high incidence of lethality of youth violence demands a major national response. The need for this type of legislation is even more critical because younger and younger children are accessing guns and becoming increasingly involved in violence and gang activity.

The rash of recent school shootings which occurred across several of our states are a manifestation of not only a disturbing trend of hostility among our young people, but also how accessible violent weapons are to our children.

We must not only look at what leads children to kill other children, we must also take responsibility for placing the tools of death within their reach.

The trigger lock amendment will prevent children from shooting guns, either accidentally or purposefully. It will help to save our young people's lives and protect our communities and our families from accidental gun violence.

Mr. Chairman, only at this time, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw this amendment in order to offer this amendment after we have fully educated the American people on this needed gun safety feature.

Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr.

PEASE) having assumed the chair, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

LIMITING AMENDMENTS AND DEBATE TIME THROUGH TITLE 6 DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4276, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999, IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TODAY

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during the further consideration of H.R. 4276 in the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to H. Res. 508; the remainder of the bill through title 6 be considered as read; and no amendment shall be in order thereto except for the following amendments, which shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment or to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole, and shall be debatable for the time specified, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and a Member opposed thereto:

Mr. TRAFICANT of Ohio related to a prison study for 5 minutes;

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia for a colloquy for 10 minutes;

Mr. SANDERS of Vermont related to SBA offsets for 5 minutes;

Mr. ENGEL of New York related to PTFP for 10 minutes;

Mr. ROYCE of California, to strike ATP for 10 minutes;

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky related to NOAA for 10 minutes;

Mr. PALLONE of New Jersey related to NOAA for 15 minutes;

Mr. CALLAHAN of Alabama related to NOAA for 10 minutes;

Mr. FARR of California related to NOAA for 10 minutes;

Mr. CALLAHAN of Alabama related to a general provision regarding fisheries for 20 minutes under the rule;

Mr. GILCHREST of Maryland to strike section 210 for 15 minutes;

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland regarding UN arrears for 15 minutes;

Mr. STEARNS of Florida regarding UN arrears for 15 minutes;

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD of California regarding SBA for 5 minutes;

Mr. TALENT of Missouri regarding SBA for 10 minutes;

and Mr. MOLLOHAN of West Virginia regarding the census, made in order under the rule, to title 2 be in order at a later point in the reading of the bill, notwithstanding that title 2 may be closed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, engaging the chairman for a further understanding with regard to the postponement of the census debate, the chairman and I have discussed this matter, and I would simply like to confirm that understanding, that the census debate will be had after we have votes on those amendments that we are going to roll until tomorrow from debates we have tonight?

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MOLLOHAN. I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, that would be my understanding, that we will continue proceeding this evening; that Members, after the four votes that have been called tonight, those four votes will take place immediately, after which there would be no further recorded votes for tonight, and we will proceed tonight with amendments and role those votes until tomorrow, in which case those votes would be taken tomorrow morning, and then proceed directly to the census amendment, if that is the gentleman's desire.

Mr. MOLLOHAN. It is, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ROGERS. If the gentleman changes his mind between now and then and wants to do other amendments, that will be fine.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MOLLOHAN. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to inquire of the chair of the subcommittee, it is my understanding there are five pending recorded votes.

Mr. ROGERS. The gentleman is correct, there are five.

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3892, ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENCY ACT

Mr. DREIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-675) on the resolution (H. Res. 516) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3892) to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a program to help children and youth learn English, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 508 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on